

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under § 102 on the basis of Ohno '960. Applicants traverse this rejection because Ohno does not disclose (or suggest) recording and/or reproducing apparatus having plural object lenses which can support plural media, as in amended claim 7.

Amended claims 7-12 are drawn to an apparatus for recording or reproducing data in different types of recording media. The claimed apparatus has, among other things, an integrated optical head, in which a light source and an optical detector are integrated together. The optical system is designed such that the returned light from the recording media is directed back to the optical head (Fig. 2, Fig. 3 and others).

Because of the integrated optical head, the incident light path and the returning light path overlap with each other, enabling a compact configuration, a small number of parts, and simplified adjustment procedure.

The claimed apparatus also has two reflecting surfaces in a light path switching device formed in one body and arranged to be in parallel to each other (Fig. 3 and others). Because the two reflecting surfaces in the light path switching device are formed in one body and arranged to be in parallel to each other, path switching can be performed reliably, and the direction of the light beam in the output light path changes very little, even when the light path switching device involves a position error (Fig. 7A to Fig. 7E). This makes it easy to assemble the light path switching device.

The present invention is different from Ohno in that the present invention includes plural object lenses, and can support plural media. The mirror 122 or the prism 234 is used for switching the light paths corresponding to the respective object lenses and media. Further, as shown in Fig. 3, 4, 8 and 9, the mirror 122 or the prism 234 is independently arranged relative to the unit 102 moving in the track direction.

In Ohno, the object lens is integrated with the movable mirror and is moved in the track direction. There is no disclosure or suggestion to provide plural object lenses to support plural media, and the object lens cannot move independently from the movable mirror. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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